

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 16154 181123Z

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 /015 W

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R 180939Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1606

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PASS TREASURY FOR ASST. SEC. WALKER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, RP

SUBJECT: LINNIE JANE HODGES ESTATE

1. DURING THE COURSE OF THE IMF/IBRD MEETINGS, TREASURY OFFICIALS DISCUSSED THE HODGES CASE WITH SECRETARY OF FINANCE VIRATA AND OTHER GOP OFFICIALS. TOMAS TOLEDO, DIRECTOR OF THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT, BURUEAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE, HAS NOW INFORMED EMBASSY OFFICER THAT HE HAS STILL NOT MADE FINAL RECOMMENDATION TO VIRATA ON FORM OF LETTER THAT VIRATA MIGHT PROVIDE TO MODIFY HIS LETTER OF MAY 26 TO SECRETARY SIMON.

2. ACCORDING TO TOLEDO, HE IS AWAITING WORD FROM TREASURY THAT AN OPTION WHICH HE CLAIMS TO HAVE DISCUSSED WITH ASST. SEC. WALKER IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR REMAINS VIABLE. THAT IS, HE WISHES TO KNOW WHETHER TREASURY WOULD FIND IT ACCEPTABLE TO RETAIN, FOR REMITTANCE TO THE ESTATE, PART OF THE TOTAL \$190,429.18, CORRESPONDING TO THE AMOUNT WHICH HAD BEEN PAID BY THE HEIRS TO SATISY THE TAX OBLIGATION. THE REMAINDER WOULD BE RETURNED TO THE PHILIPPINES.

3. SECRETARY VIRATA PREVIOUSLY COMMENTED TO AN EMBASSY OFFICER THAT PERHAPS A "COMPROMISE" COULD BE REACHED IN THE HODGES CASE.

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PAGE 02 MANILA 16154 181123Z

4. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY WAS NOT A PARTY TO ALL

DISCUSSIONS ON THIS SUBJECT DURING IMF/IBRD, THE ABOVE DEVELOPMENTS CLEARLY INDICATE THAT THE TREND OF GOP THINKING IS IN THE DIRECTION OF SPLITTING THE AMOUNT IN SOME WAY. WE THEREFORE SUGGEST THAT NOW IS THE TIME TO AGREE TO NEGOTIATE A SOLUTION ON THIS BASIS, OR IF IT IS UNACCEPTABLE TO TREASURY, THAT THE GOP BE INFORMED OF THIS WITHOUT DELAY. END COMMENT.
SULLIVAN

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